Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1. (Canceled)

Claim 2. (Currently amended) A split nut for use with a rod having dual directional screw threads about a common diameter, the split nut comprising:

a body having a threaded bore therethrough, said threaded bore for threadedly engaging with one of the screw threads of the rod;

said body having an body opening through one side of said body interrupting the threads in said threaded bore in such a way that a portion of the rod intermediate the dual screw threads may pass through said body opening;

said threaded bore operable for threadedly engaging with one of the screw threads of the rod such that rotation of the rod in one direction advances the rod into the threaded bore, and rotation of the rod in the other direction withdraws the rod from said bore; and

[The split nut of claim 1 wherein the] said side of the split nut having said body [the] opening also having [has] a flat face for attaching to a fixed surface such that [the] said split nut does not rotate when a rod threadedly engaged with [the] said threaded bore is rotated.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) The split nut of claim 2 wherein when said flat face is fixed to said fixed surface, and said body opening is covered such that the rod cannot pass through the opening.

Claim 4. (Currently amended) The split nut of claim 2 wherein said flat face includes at least one projection which register with at least one body opening in said fixed surface.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) The split nut of claim 4 wherein the projection and body opening are polarized such that the split nut may be attached to the fixed surface in only one way.

Claim 6. The split nut of claim 2 wherein said flat surface is attached to said fixed surface by welding.

Claim 7. Canceled.

Claim 8. A method for placing a split nut on a rod having dual directional screw threads about a common diameter, the method comprising:

providing the body of the split nut with a threaded bore therethrough, the threaded bore for threadedly engaging with one of the screw threads of the rod;

providing an opening through one side of the body interrupting the threads in said threaded bore;

passing a portion of the rod intermediate the dual screw threads through the opening; and

threadedly engaging with one of the screw threads of the rod with the threaded bore such that rotation of the rod in one direction advances the rod into the threaded bore, and rotation of the rod in the other direction withdraws the rod from the bore; and

[The method of claim 7 further comprising] attaching a flat face on the side of the split nut having the opening to a fixed surface such that the split nut does not rotate when a rod threadedly engaged with the threaded bore is rotated.

Claim 9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein when said flat face is fixed to said fixed surface, said opening is covered such that the rod cannot pass through the opening.

Claim 10. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising inserting at least one projection extending from said flat face into corresponding openings in said fixed surface.

Claim 11. (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising polarizing the projection and the corresponding opening such that the split nut may be attached to the fixed surface in only one way.

Claim 12. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising welding said flat surface is to said fixed surface.